

HOUSE BILL NO. 65

INTRODUCED BY D. SANDS

BY REQUEST OF THE CHILDREN, FAMILIES, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR CONTINUED SERVICES TO HIGH-RISK CHILDREN WHO NEED MENTAL HEALTH AND OTHER STATE AGENCY SERVICES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature has in recent years directed state agencies to provide child- and family-centered services to high-risk children who need mental health and other state agency services, through passage of the Multiagency Service Placement Plan authorized in Title 52, chapter 2, part 3; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature also has directed state agencies to try to identify these high-risk children at an early age and serve them through an integrated system of care that provides services, whenever possible, in a community setting using evidence-based practices; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Human Services obtained a federal system of care grant in 2004 to develop community-based planning and services for these high-risk children and to create kids management authorities as part of the state's system of care; and

WHEREAS, the federal grant terminates in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee reviewed Montana's system of care as part of its 2008-09 mental health study and agreed on the importance of providing child- and family-centered services through the system of care components.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Appropriation. For the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, there is appropriated from the general fund to the department of public health and human services the following amounts to sustain the system of care for high-risk children with multiagency needs as provided for in Title 52, chapter 2, part 3:

(1) \$750,000 in each year of the biennium to sustain the kids management authorities created under the cooperative agreement between the state of Montana and the federal government for the federal substance

1 abuse and mental health services administration system of care grant, identified in the catalogue of federal
2 domestic assistance as grant No. 93.104;

3 (2) \$250,000 in fiscal year 2010 to support the development of five additional kids management
4 authorities modeled on the proposal in the cooperative agreement for grant No. 93.104;

5 (3) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2011 to support the five kids management authorities developed in 2010 and
6 to develop five additional kids management authorities as described in subsection (2); and

7 (4) \$100,000 in each year of the biennium to put into effect the wraparound philosophy of services that
8 are designed to assist and support children and their family members based on the child's and family's unique
9 needs, strengths, and preferences.

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11 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Report to the legislature.** The department shall prepare a report to the
12 children, families, health, and human services interim committee and the legislative finance committee no later
13 than September 15, 2010, summarizing the use of the funds appropriated in [section 1].

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15 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2009.

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